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Message Text

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65
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

ACDA-07 CEQ-01 EPA-01 NSF-01 DOTE-00 AGRE-00 /117 W
---------- 122949
R 191120Z OCT 76
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2972
INFO USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECE, CSCE, EAGR
SUBJ: ECE - TIMBER COMMITTEE - CONSIDERATION OF SOVIET PROPOSAL
FOR ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESSES ON ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT
AND ENERGY

1. QUESTION OF SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESSES
ON ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND ENERGY RAISED AT OPENING
SESSION OF ECE TIMBER COMMITTEE OCT. 18 IN CONNECTION
WITH CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS ARISING OUT OF 31ST SESSION
OF ECE.

2. SOVIET DEL OPENED DEBATE BY REMINDING COMMITTEE OF
PROPOSAL, WHOSE IMPORTANCE AND RELEVANCE HE SAID WAS
SO OBVIOUS AS TO NEED NO FURTHER PROOF. SOV. DEL SAID
COMMITTEE SHOULD TAKE PROPOSAL INTO ACCOUNT IN ITS PRACTICAL
WORK AND SUGGESTED THAT CONGRESSES MIGHT CONSIDER FOLLOWING
SPECIFIC QUESTIONS OF RELEVANCE TO TIMBER SECTOR:
(A) ENVIRONMENT CONGRESS:
TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF WAYS OF CUTTING
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DOWN TIMBER;

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IMPACT OF MODERN MACHINERY ON ENVIRONMENT;
IMPACT OF FOREST FIRES ON ENVIRONMENT.
(B) TRANSPORT CONGRESS:
NEW AND NON-TRADITIONAL MEANS OF TRANSPORT (E.G.,
BY WATER AND AIR);

(C) ENERGY CONGRESS:
USE OF WOOD RESIDUE AS FUEL.

SOVIET DEL SAID HE WOULD COME BACK TO MATTER DURING
DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAM.

3. SOVIET STATEMENT SUPPORTED BY GDR AND HUNGARY, WHICH
SUGGESTED TAKING FINDINGS OF INTERLAKEN SEMINAR ON
FORESTS AND ENVIRONMENT TO CONGRESS LEVEL.

4. NETHERLANDS, SPEAKING FOR MEMBERS OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
(EC) MADE STATEMENT IDENTICAL TO THAT AT CHEMICAL INDUSTRY
COMMITTEE MEETING OCT.6 TO EFFECT THAT FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURES
RE SOVIET PROPOSAL SET FORTH BY COMMISSION IN DECISION B
(XXXI) AND CONSIDERATION BY TIMBER COMMITTEE NOT CALLED
FOR AT THIS TIME. ONCE AGAIN HE REFERRED TO IMPORTANCE
OF IMPLEMENTATION OF CSCE FINAL ACT AND ALL 31ST SESSION
RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS, ESPECIALLY RESOLUTION I (XXXI)
AND DECISION D (XXXI).

5. NETHERLANDS STATEMENT EVOKED QUESTION FROM SOVIET DEL
AS TO WHAT HINDERED COMMITTEE FROM DISCUSSING QUESTION
BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION.

6. US RESPONDED WITH STATEMENT ALONG LINES STATE 210010,
ADDING THAT ALL KNOW QUITE WELL THAT COMMISSION IN
DRAWING TOPICS TO ATTENTION OF PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY
BODIES (PSB'S) HAD INTENDED TO DO JUST THAT. US
DEL ALSO REITERATED US INTENTION TO IMPLEMENT CSCE
FINAL ACT AND ALL 31ST SESSION RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS
AND AGAIN STRESSED IN THIS REGARD IMPORTANCE OF
RESOLUTION I (XXXI) AND DECISION D(XXXI) WHICH CALLED
FOR SPECIFIC ACTION BY PSB'S. US AND NETHERLANDS
STATEMENTS SUPPORTED BY CANADA.
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7. USSR THEN ASKED OPINION OF SECRETARIAT ON MATTER.
TIMBER DIVISION DIRECTOR (KALKKINEN) RESPONDED
THAT NOTHING PREVENTED COMMITTEE FROM DISCUSSING WHAT
IT WISHED, BUT NEITHER WAS IT INSTRUCTED TO DO SO.
SOV. DEL ASKED THAT DIRECTOR'S REMARKS BE PLACED IN RECORD.

8. WHILE SOVIET DEL SUCCEEDED IN GETTING LAST WORD,

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HIS HEAVY-HANDED WAY OF PUTTING SECRETARIAT ON SPOT WAS NOT
LIKELY TO WIN SUPPORT FOR SOVIET INITIATIVE. FINNS ARE
REPORTED TO HAVE ADVISED SOVIETS TO "COOL IT" AND NOT BRING
MATTER UP AGAIN DURING DISCUSSION OF WORK PROGRAM. IN
ANY EVENT, ANOTHER GO AROUND SEEMS INEVITABLE DURING
CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE'S FINAL REPORT.CATTO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WOOD PRODUCTS, ENVIRONMENT, COMMITTEES, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA08171
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760391-1268
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761039/aaaabgvq.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <20 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECE - TIMBER COMMITTEE - CONSIDERATION OF SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESSES ON ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND ENERGY
TAGS: EAGR, ECE, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

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